

Claims

1. In a silver mirror, comprising a polymeric substrate, a thin specular-reflective silver layer overlying the substrate and bonded thereto, and a thin protective layer of film-forming polymer overlying the exposed surface of the silver layer, the protective layer firmly adherently bonded thereto, the improvement, comprising an ultraviolet absorbing polymer film adhered to the exposed surface of the protective layer.

5 2. The silver mirror of claim 1, wherein the ultraviolet absorbing polymer is acrylic.

3. The silver mirror of claim 1, wherein the ultraviolet absorbing polymer is selected from the group consisting of polycarbonate, polyester, polyethylene naphthalate or fluoropolymer.

10 4. The silver mirror of claim 1, wherein the ultraviolet absorbing polymer film is adhered to the exposed surface of the protective layer by means of an adhesive.

15 5. The silver mirror of claim 1, wherein the ultraviolet absorbing polymer film is adhered to the exposed surface of the protective layer by means of a solvent weld.

6. The silver mirror of claim 1, wherein the ultraviolet absorbing polymer film is adhered to the exposed surface of the protective layer by means of a thermal weld.

7. The silver mirror of claim 1, wherein the ultraviolet absorbing polymer film is adhered to the exposed surface of the protective layer by means of an ultrasonic weld.

20 8. A method for making a silver mirror, comprising the steps of:

(a) providing a polymeric substrate;

(b) bonding a specular-reflective silver layer to the substrate;

(c) bonding a thin protective layer of a film-forming polymer to the silver layer; and

25 (d) adhering an ultraviolet absorbing polymer film to the protective layer.

9. The method of claim 8, wherein the ultraviolet absorbing polymer is acrylic.

10. The method of claim 8, wherein the ultraviolet absorbing polymer is selected from the group consisting of polycarbonate, polyester, polyethylene naphthalate or fluoropolymer.

30 11. The method of claim 8, wherein the step of adhering comprises gluing or welding.